1908
(Agriculture)

F/No: 183
S/Nos. 3 to 6

(51)

Subj:- Question of placing Yegnanarayana Iyer, Asst. chemist in charge of the Agricultural chemists office

Previous references.
Rev F. 42901-2
Agri 75-08
— 18-08
— 27-07 & 1172
— 13 24906-1
Later references.

1908
(Agriculture)

File No. 183

Serial Nos. 3, 4 & 6

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

Serial Nos. 3, 4 & 6

Part B. for February 10

Question of

SUBJECT.

Placing the services of Mr Yegnanarayana Iyer, Asst Chemist, in charge of the Agricultural Chemist's Office

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Cl 3:- From the State Geologist - No 241 S dated 26.3.09 Requests that G.O. No. 7200-4 183-05- dated 12.3.09 may be reconsidered, as it has been passed without his being consulted.

G. R. S. 58

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT

( )

NOTES.

File No.

File Heading.

Re Placing of A.K. Yusufzai ... at Shewaki, in charge of the Police ... Station of the Tehsil ...

From

The State Bank of Pakistan ...

No. 615 Dated 26/2/06 Received 1/3/06

Diary No. 1.4	Enclos.	Spare Copies.	Serial No. 3

Brief Abstract of Letter.

Requests that the P.O. No. 7205 ... 1.152 03-1 dated 12/2/06 may be cancelled ... and ... in their ... on ... the ... of the ...

NOTES AND ORDERS.

Notes—First sheet.

GPB—30,000—20-3-06.

The chief ground on which Dr. Sreenath objects to the recent order of Government directing the retransfer of the 2 Assistant Chemists (Messrs B. Venkata Rao & H. V. Krishnayya) who have been carrying on manurial analysis in the Agricultural Chemist's laboratory and that Mr. Yegna Narayana Iyer should be put in charge of the Agricultural Chemist's laboratory are (1) that he has not made any such proposals regarding the retransfer of the 2 Assistant Chemists in question as contemplated in Para 5 of P. G. No R 3513-23/Agri 42-08-4 dt. 18th Dec 1908 and (2) that the 2 Assistant Chemists concerned do not desire such transfer

Flag 2

The chief ground on which Dr. Sreenath objects to the recent order of Government directing the retransfer of the 2 Assistant Chemists (Messrs B. Venkata Rao & H. V. Krishnayya) who have been carrying on manurial analysis in the Agricultural Chemist's laboratory and that Mr. Yegna Narayana Iyer should be put in charge of the Agricultural Chemist's laboratory are (1) that he has not made any such proposals regarding the retransfer of the 2 Assistant Chemists in question as contemplated in Para 5 of P.C. No R 3513-23/Agri 42-08-4 dt. 18th Dec 1908 and (2) that the 2 Assistant Chemists concerned do not come under

Flag 2

the schemes for putting an unmerited reflection on their status and qualifications and (3) that both Dr Coleman and himself do not consider the arrangement very suitable or expedient and cannot therefore give effect to it until they are furnished with definite information as to the reasons which have prompted Government to make the changes and given an opportunity of considering the whole question.

Before dealing with these points separately it may be remarked that Dr Smuts can have no connection with any changes which may be contemplated in the Agricultural Department and Government are not bound to consult him. He need not be told any thing

for Dr Coleman, who is quite capable of speaking for himself. Neither has Dr Coleman been consulted by the head of the Agricultural department. When Dr Lehmann has, quite lately, been retirement,

Flag A

Dr Coleman was put in charge of the department, as a ~~temporary~~ temporary measure and then he claimed a charge allowance. he was briefly informed

× Flag B top 2

that as senior officer of the department, the duties of the Agricultural Chemist had merely devolved on him and that he could not therefore be given a charge allowance. As he was merely an Entomologist by

bacteriologist' and had no experience either of agricultural work proper or of agricultural chemistry the question of removing him from the charge of the Agricultural Chemists' laboratory & the Herbal Farm was soon after taken up for consideration. The reasons which led the Govt to take this step are not stated in the file - But they are briefly as follows: — (1) Dr Coleman could have found it difficult to attend both to his bacteriological work and also to the work of supervising the ~~tests~~ experiments which were being carried on in the Farm and the laboratory, even if he were fully qualified for it. Even when Dr Lehmann

was in charge of the department he found it difficult to go to the Mainland during the monsoon, though he himself considered such a step to be very necessary if his research into Kalazar were to be of any use and thought the reason for it was that the travelling allowance permissible to him under the Service Regulations was quite inadequate to meet the cost of his tours in the Mainland it is probable that the difficulties of making a prolonged stay at that time in the Mainland had also something to do with the postponement of the book. Dr Coleman has been asked to take up

the investigations undertaken in animal and he is of opinion that it will be difficult for him to attend to it & expect to arrive at results of any value along with his other work. It is also not clear that certain Dr. Coleman could have exercised over the work done in the Agricultural Chemists' laboratory as in the Herbal Farm. Without being an expert & having no knowledge personally of the nature of the work done in the Agricultural Chemists' laboratory the experiments carried on there it is impossible for him to decide what should be the investigations to be carried on in the Laboratory.

The same remarks apply

with practice free of the Hebbal Farm - Dr Coleman has been submitting several recommendations for the purchase of apparatus and chemicals for experiments in the farm and part are not in a position to know how many of these proposals were their initiation and whether the proposals of the officers working in the department were merely adopted by him. By keeping Dr Coleman at the head of the Agricultural Department the work of the Hebbal Farm would have been entirely left to practically the Overseer of the farm who, whatever his merits and qualifications may be, is scarcely fit

to be in independent charge of the Farm. In the Agricultural Chemists' Laboratory there are three Officers in charge, and I am told that the same system has been in force for many years. It appears to work well and I see no reason to suppose that any change would be advantageous. The Assistant Chemists have various duties to perform, and I do not think that any one of them could be spared from the Laboratory for the purpose of taking charge of the Farm.

The Assistant Chemists' Laboratory is well equipped with apparatus, and the Assistant Chemists have various duties to perform, and I do not think that any one of them could be spared from the Laboratory for the purpose of taking charge of the Farm.

Assistant Geologists. They were transferred to the Agricultural Chemists' office after Dr Leathes's appointment had to give them the necessary training in chemical analysis as Mr Venkat Rao had obtained his degree in Chemistry & Mr Krishnayya in Physical Science. The original object no doubt seemed to have been to make them suitable for Geological work in Agricultural Chemistry but the growing demands for chemical analysis for the Geological Department and the numerous criminal cases which the theft & charge of coal in the Kolar Gold Fields led to, have rendered it necessary for

them to devote their entire attention to it. This has been the burden of Dr Leibmann's song from the beginning. This is that made him obtain the sanction of Govt to the appointment of Dr Gyna Lang and Liger and for permission to train several Probationary Asst Chemists. One of his constant complaints regarding the working of expense in his department was that it was made to bear the charges incurred on account of the Hog and experiments of these Asst ~~Assistant~~ Chemists. In his Administrative Report for the year 1904-05, he remarked "Two of the Assistants were employed exclusively on work for the Ecological department: of these

Ag C

Mr. Venkat Rao devoted practically all his time to Cold analysis".
(Para 10). In the reports for subsequent years he has been ~~saying~~ making a statement to the same effect almost every year See para 2(a) of the Report for 1905-06, para 13 of the Report for 1906-07 & para 7 of 1907-08 - In his last Report, he says "The two Lime Assistants have, as always, devoted their entire time to work for the Petrological Department. As these Assistants are transferred from the Petrological Department to the Agricultural Department solely for the purpose of giving them the advantage of trained supervision, they ought to be kept there that

Flag. 2

trained supervision is removed they be returned to the Technical Department". It was on this that Port worked separate proposals to be made regarding their transfer to the Technical department. It says this order was sent to the State Treasurer & it was for him to have made the necessary proposals. Having failed to do so, he is warned in order in sustaining Port whether such proposals have received or has he any right. To grant that orders were issued without these proposals for the removal of the Asst Chemists in Quebec, if Port deemed such

a step to be necessary for a proper conduct of work in the laboratory.

With regard to Mr. Venkataraya the first one served for qualifying him for the post of agricultural analyst (Dr Lehmann's letter Secretary regarding the objects of appointing Mr. Venkataraya as Assistant). In May 1905 in asking for a reconsideration of the order giving him a pay of Rs 150 instead of appointing him to the grade of Asst Chemists on Rs 200–300, Dr Lehmann remarked "If we are to retain men of Mr. A. K. Venkata

Narayana Iyer's standing in the service he must by then at least. that of a Superintending, during the same time I could have been receiving

the less this could mitigate is very great indeed, as his training in analytical chemistry has in the years last taken up a considerable portion of my time and at present he is the only assistant conversant with agricultural chemical analysis. It also adds that Mr. Govinda Narayana Iyer has in the habit of devoting his extra spare time to Laboratory work, which enabled him Dr Leipmann to attend to the investigation

of agricultural problems
and the establishment of the
Experimental Farm. There has
been no occasion since for
Dr Lehmann to make any
special report of his Uganda
work but from the
fact that in his annual
reports he has always referred
to it as satisfactory & the
impression that one who commenced
so well could have failed to
acquire much useful experience
during the last 3 years there
is no reason to believe that
Dr Lehmann could have entertained
any other opinion of his Uganda
work. In the light of this
fact & of Dr Lewellin's
letter* about Dr Lehmann
having left no record
any recommendation in
favour of his Uganda

Hq 3

* Papers under
disposal

a that he considered him to be
his principal assistant in
regard to analytical work
— agricultural matter is
unintelligible nor is it clear
what right Dr Lincoln has
to put that question to Clark
& how he could hope to
know more about the working
of ~~the laboratory & the Evaporation~~
of ~~the several Officers employed~~
~~therein~~ a department with which
he has no concern & the Evaporation
of the several Officers employed
therein & part from the reports
~~received by him~~ who have received
from time to time
Dr Coleman hereby in
recommending for Extraordinary
Pay to be raised to
300 Rs ~~stated~~ since the
departure of Dr Lehmann
considerably more work and
responsibility has & necessarily to

× Pag. E

fall on him. Under present conditions he together with the two Probationary Asst Chemists has to do all the agricultural chemical work as the other two Assistants are left busy with work for the Pesticide Department. Thus he must largely supervise the work of the agricultural chemical laboratory". What reason Dr Chapman could have to change his opinion within such a short time I can't see. Dr Smith himself could be aware of it cannot be gathered from Dr Smith's letter.

Unless all the Asst Chemists are subordinate to an officer, who has initiate knowledge of this work and can exercise effective control

over it, it is impossible to combine the work of agricultural & mineral analysis in the same laboratory. The chemicals & apparatus used in both should be separately situated & provided for so that there may be no waste of material & this cannot be done until the requirements of ~~the work~~ each kind of work are separately ascertained. If Dr Sweetman considers that the 2 Asst Chemists are more than are required for the work of mineral analysis he has merely to inform Prof of it & Prof would no doubt be able to find suitable work for him the extra year.

Mrs D'Souza is not right in raising any objection to carrying out the work of last in the ground that he was not consulted and in assuming that the step has been taken without due careful consideration.

It is also not clear how the fact that Dr. Venkat Rao has been recommended for a Damodar Dass Scholarship should make any difference in the matter of giving an extension of time. where officers of equal rank are deputed to work together in the same laboratory to do work of an entirely different nature or an

when it is necessary
independent footing a work the
cost the ~~investor~~ the whole ground
× conduct are × such work in any
× there is another Officer
are of practical
without any
acquaintance with the working
Even if Sri Venkata Rao is
the scholarship, he
cannot expect the appointment
Agricultural Assistant is
to be kept open for him on
his return on completion
of course to make him the
head of the Agricultural Dept
or any of its branches. When
there is the question of the
relative ranks of Sri Venkata
Rao & Sri Krishnayya
in the case appointed together
I have Officers
& the same pay and
drawing more or less on a level.
~~not~~ ~~comparison of~~ ~~superior to the~~
other in respect of attainments
and qualifications, we may
subordinate the one to the

other.

The objectionable nature of the communication issued by D Lincoln may therefore be tested both by him and he may be satisfied that for ~~of~~ D to ~~state~~ that as he has no communication with any chemist that body might decide to make in the Agricultural Dept, he is not in order in questioning the acts of which no one can be claim any right to be consulted in the matter. From every annual report of the Agl Chemist it is apparent that the 2 senior Asst Chemists have been employed in analytical work of the Pathological dept and under the circumstances

now that they can have no trained supervision in the Agl Chemist's laboratory it is desirable that they should look under the Stock keepers so that he may be in a position to control their work & the expenditure incurred by them for mineral analysis. If he finds the 2 Asst Chemists more in number than is required for this work, he may submit separate proposals regarding the employment of the Officer in excess & if he can be shared with the Govt so that Govt may find some other use for his services. Chemists & agricultural chemical analysis & mineral analysis.

Such exchanges cannot be presumed by this involve any discredit to them or any reflection on their work

is not possible in the same laboratory under the present circumstances & there should be no difficulty for the State Pathologist to ascertain what the requirements of his dept for municipal analysis are. & have the apparatus & chemicals required & the laboratory fitted to secure what is necessary for the work. The State Pathologist ought to have endeavoured to give effect to the direction contained in the order without assuming that fact have been under his observation as to any facts & have arrived at a decision without careful consideration of all the facts. The question of the fact of the standard is referred to & Counsel & the Committee has already had his opinion about it. There is therefore no necessity to refer it again to him on

25

if it necessary to seek the
further information regarding the working
of the Agricultural Chemists'
Laboratory you will then be
settled in case it is decided
to grant the substantive Lieut
the Verdict Road scheme.

24/3/69

Lucy

Lord with a draft as
discussed
24/3/69

I have revised the draft, which
may be approved. The facts are
fully gone into in Mr D'Eyncourt's
note.

28.3.69

Done under my signature -
(make 3 copies)

28.3.69

31/3/69

Agri 183-08-26

Encl 4. To the State Geologist &
Secy. Geol Dept

No R 7866 &, 31-3-09

States in reply to Sl no 3
that the State Geologist has
no particular claim to
be consulted in the arrange-
ments ~~proposed~~ pertain-
ing to pure Agl. chemistry
and States the circumstances
under which it was considered
necessary to place an
Agricultural Chemist in
charge of the Agl. Chemist's
Office and requests him
to be the Chairman of the
Committee for arranging
the apportionment of rooms &
& to submit the recommenda-
tions of the Committee at an
early date.

G. R. S. 12]
General and Revenue Secretariat.

Agri. File No. 183 of 1909 27

Serial No.	
6	From the State Geologist — No. 2480 dt. 5. 4. 09.

While replying to this office letter regarding the Conduct of work in the Agrl Chemist's Office, Suggests that the accomodation at Lamborne house may be increased so as to locate a suitable Laboratory for the use of the Geological Dept and that in the meantime affairs at the Agrl Chemist's Laboratory be allowed to remain Status quo. Also recommends that Mr Venkataraman, Asst Chemist, may be deputed to America to Study mineral and rock analyses.

The file containing the Govt Order referred to in para 5 of the letter is put up. All the other papers connected with the Subject were put up along with a letter from Dr. Coleman which was Submitted to Diwan on the 3rd of this month.

Submitted

TSR

7/4/09

BK 7/4/09 Apparently the arrangement which Dr Leuth refers to in para 4 of his letter by which the original Geological Laboratory was transferred to the Agricultural

6 7B 56, Agri 183-08-2 dt 3. 3 09.

x Flg V.

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—50,000—13-5-08

Serial No.

Chemist with the Asst. Surveyor is with a regular Chemical laboratory in which all the chemical work of Forts could be done was a verbal one as there are no records in which this fact has been set down. But whatever might have been the original purpose with which the laboratory was might have been formed it would be ridiculous to treat it as a Periodical laboratory still because it has been retained as such in an order of 1902 and no formal order transferring it completely to the Asst. Chemist has been passed. The Asst. Chemist Dr Lehmann considered it empty as his own laboratory and secured the most expensive apparatus and fittings for it for his own use. In fact one of the reasons assigned by Dr Lehmann for not having been able to do any agricultural work during the first Quinquennium of his term was that he was mainly engaged in equipping the laboratory. The cost of maintaining it the charges of ~~[illegible]~~ working it

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—50,000—13-5-08

Serial No.

have all been borne by the Agricultural department. It is difficult therefore to understand the argument that there is no Agricultural Chemical laboratory and what is described as such is merely "a loose expression for the portion of the Technical laboratory which the Agl Chemist may happen to be utilizing" As a matter of fact the entire laboratory was used by the Agl Chemist no special part of it was reserved for the use of the Technical Dept and the Agl Chemist & the analytical work of the Technical Dept was entirely subordinate to the determinations and testing under his control. Or search for them no such division as the laboratory as he claims.

The State Technologist has a right to be consulted as to how the work of the Technical Dept is to be carried on in future & whether any portion of the laboratory could be adapted for the work. It is for this

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—50,000—13-5-08

Serial No.

purpose that he has been appointed President of the Committee appointed to consider the question of the appointment of the building and of his opinion that such a division is not possible if the work is to be carried on satisfactorily & he wants a separate laboratory but will no doubt give due weight to the opinion in question in forwarding and on in the matter. Mr Sweetth has made no attempt whether the existing accommodation is sufficient to tackle the question and merely bases his opinion on certain ~~opinions formed~~ a priori grounds and assumptions as to the attitude of Govt in the matter. The question of providing a separate laboratory for the Pathological dept may be deferred therefore till a further attempt has been made to examine the requirements of each Officer and see if arrangements cannot be made to enable them to carry on their legitimate work to start interference from one another in the present building.

NOTE—Contn. sheet.

GPB—50,000—13-5-08

31

Serial No.

It seems to be unnecessary to meet the argument that as Mr. Vijaya Ranjan Das will practically be in charge of the whole laboratory it is necessary to consider his qualifications with reference to those of the other officers working in the same laboratory, for that fact before having him in charge of it have decided is that Mr. Vijaya Ranjan Das is best fitted among the Asst Chemists to do the work of Agricultural Chemist and it rests with the State Geologist to suggest some arrangement whereby he is confined to such work and there is such a division of labour as will enable each officer to devote himself entirely to the work for which he has been specially trained. The anomalous result hinted at if the State Geologist will continue as long as the State Geologist persists in his obstructive attitude to leave things in status quo until the State Geologist is able to get rid

MGCPB—20,000—1-11-04.

Serial No.

a laboratory & his own will practically mean that all other work excepting mineral analysis will be stopped in the laboratory and utter confusion ~~arising from the~~ will result from the dispersing responsibility.

The State Geologist may be informed that it is not possible for the first in the present state of finances to sanction a new geological laboratory & he should therefore try to secure it by a proper apportionment of the Agl Chemist's laboratory. The Committee should mark as early as possible and submit definite proposals. With regard to the grant of a scholarship to Mr Venkata Rao to study coal and mineral analysis, the Geologist is requested to make a separate ~~proposal~~ recommendation pointing out the necessity for deputing another Officer for special study when the Geological department already possesses 2 Officers besides State Geologist, the one allowed

MGCPB—20,000—1-11-04.

Serial No.

To be by Enquiries. to acquire Penal Enabpeakers

Lig / 9/4/09

Mr D'Souza has dealt so fully with the case that I have little to add to his note. If approved the draft of a reply will be put up. // It is strange that Mr Coleman has not yet reported having handed over charge of the Chemists Office to Mr Yajnanarayana Iyer, in spite of the peremptory order of 5th. It seems necessary, in the interests of discipline, that he should be told to give effect to the order of 5th before making further representations; & if preferred, an order may issue that the charge of the Office will be deemed to have already passed from the one Officer to the other from that a previous date.

12/2/11 H.S. will please remind me of 1614. this on Wednesday 14th instant.

183 S.

MGCPB—20,000—1-11-04.

Serial No.

The final orders passed in the matter referred to in the margin of the previous page is as follows:-

Go. no R 5585-6-Ag-183-08
Dy 9th February 1910

State that for the present Dr Coleman should continue in charge of the Agl Chemist's Office & Laboratory & sanctions an allowance of Rs 75 per mensem with effect from the 1st Oct of 1909 to him. So long as he continues to be in ~~Stock~~ charge of that Office.

The order referred to above has been recorded in a separate collection
- Ag 183 of 8 1 ms 2, 5, 7 & 8
B Jo Bombay 5.10.

NOTE—Contn sheet.

GPB—60 000—17-3-07

M. G. D. 12]

Agri 183-08-2

MYSORE GEOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT

DATED BANGALORE, 26th March 1909.

No. 2418

6134

From

DR. W. F. SMEETH, M.A., D.Sc., A.R.S.M., etc.,
Secretary to the Government of H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore,
Geological Department

To

K.S. Chandrasekhara Iyer, Esquire, B.A.,B.L.,
Secretary to the Government of His Highness
the Maharaja of Mysore,
General & Revenue Departments.

SIR.

With reference to Government Order No.R.7200-4/Agri. 183-08-1, dated 12th March 1909, a copy of which has been sent to me, I have the honour to bring the following points to the notice of Government:-

2. In the Proceedings before the order I observe that Para 5 of Government Order No.R.3913-23/Agri.42-08-4, dated 18th December 1908 was read and on referring to the order quoted I find thatpara 5 runs as follows.-

" Separate proposals may be submitted regarding the transfer to the Geological Department of the two Senior Assistants who are doing analytical work in connection with that Department".

As the whole of the order of the 12th March 1909 appears to hinge on these separate proposals, may I request you to kindly furnish me with a copy of those which have been received?

3. As the proposals relate to the transfers of officers from a Department under charge of Dr.Coleman to another Depart-

ment

ment under my charge and as neither Dr.Coleman nor myself have made any proposals or been consulted in regard to them, it seems desirable that we should be made acquainted with the objects of the proposed changes and have an opportunity of discussing them before convening a committee to consider how they are to be carried out.

4. Para 2 of the order of 12th March states that Dr.Lehmann recommended that the two Senior Assistant Chemists should be re-transferred to the Geological Department. But again I have no knowleuge of this recommendation, nor have I been consulted by Dr.Lehmann or any one else as to the convenience or desirability of such retransfer.

5. As a consequence of the changes outlined the order goes on to state that Mr. Yegnanarayana Iyer, one of the junior Assistant Chemists, should be placed in charge of the Agricultural Chemist's Laboratory and the Senior Assistant Chemists have, very properly, complained to Dr.Coleman and myself that they consider this arrangement an unmerited reflection on their status and qualifications. Possibly the order has been drafted under some misapprehension as to these points, especially as the Heads of the Departments concerned have not been consulted.

6. In this connection I should be glad to know whether Dr. Lehmann left on record any recommendation in favour of Mr.Yegnanarayana Iyer or that he considered him to be his principal assistant in regard to analytical work - agricultural or other.

7. Government trust that it will be possible to arrive at a settlement satisfactory to all concerned and tending to promote cooperation; but the settlement outlined in the order does not commend itself to either Dr.Coleman or myself and is distinctly unsatisfactory to the Senior Assistant Chemists. There remains only Mr.Yegnanarayana Iyer who may or may not be satisfied.

8. It seems desirable that before anything further is done Dr.Coleman and myself should be asked to consider the whole matter and should have before us any proposals and recommendations which have been made and submit our views to Government.

9. As an allied matter I may mention that one of the Senior Assistant Chemists, Mr.Venkata Rao, has been asked by the Inspector General of Education to go to Germany to study Agricultural Chemistry. I do not know what has been done in regard to this proposal which did not come through me, nor I believe through Dr.Coleman, and it is, I think, a matter which should be referred to us for consideration.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Secretary to Government,

Geological Department.

No. R 7866 of 31-3-09

4 Agri 183-08-4.

To

Dr. W.F. Smeeth, M.A., DSc.,A.R.S.M,
&c,.

State Geologist and Secretary
to Government,Geological De-
partment.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No.2418 dated the 26th March 1909 in which you raise a number of points bearing on the arrangements recently ordered by Government for the future conduct of work in the Agricultural Chemist's Department.

2. In so far as regards the arrangements pertaining to purely Agricultural Chemical work, it does not appear to Government that you have any particular claim to be consulted. [redacted] they find it difficult to understand why you would be glad to know whether Dr. Lehmann left on record any recommendation in favour of Mr. Yagnanarayana Iyer or that he considered him to be his principal assistant in regard to analytical

work - agricultural or other." Since you have ~~however~~ made the enquiry, it may be as well to state that Dr. Lehmann's reports and references to Government from time to time leave no room for doubt that Mr. Yagnanarayana Iyer had been specially selected for training in analytical agricultural chemistry and was the only one directly and continuously employed on that work, and was therefore the fittest ~~proper~~ person to be placed in charge after the departure of Dr. Lehmann, in order to secure some continuity of direction, pending the formation of a regular Agricultural Department. Dr. Coleman himself has, in a recent communication to Government, stated as follows:- " Since the departure of Dr. Lehmann, considerably more work and responsibility had of necessity to fall on Mr. Yagnanarayana Iyer. Under present conditions he, together with the two Probationary Assistant Chemists, has

To give one instance, a letter written so far back as 30th May 1906, Dr. Lehmann has said: "Mr. Yagnanarayana Iyer is the only Assistant conversant with agricultural chemical analysis. To lose Mr. Yagnanarayana Iyer would imply my doing all the analytical work in agricultural chemistry myself and devoting considerable time in training a new man for his place."

to do all the agricultural chemical work as the other two Assistants are kept busy with work for the Geological Department. Thus he must largely supervise the work of the Agricultural Chemical laboratory."

3. Dr. Coleman's charge of the Department was understood from the first to be a purely temporary arrangement. This could not be indefinitely prolonged in the interests both of his own special work in entomology and mycology, which requires his undivided and constant attention, and of the work of agricultural chemistry, which was not particularly in his line and which he would not be able to exercise much efficient supervision. Under the circumstances the transfer of the charge to Mr. Yagnanarayana Iyer was the most natural and convenient arrangement; and the Government find it difficult to understand why it should occur to any one to regard

He has himself mentioned in one of his recent letters to Govt. that the mere matter of writing his accounts letters, answering enquiries and holding conferences with up to date visiting machinery etc, takes up a good deal of his time.

it as "an unmerited reflection on the status and qualifications" of officers whose qualifications for being in charge of the particular branch of work are less obvious than his, and who are, strictly speaking, not directly connected with the department at all, ~~but have~~

4. The two Assistant Chemists referred to by you, Messrs B. Venkat Rao and H.V. Krishnayya, were originally Assistant Geologists and were transferred for training under Dr. Lehmann in chemical analysis and continued to work in the Agricultural Chemist's laboratory in view of the trained supervision which Dr. Lehmann as a Chemical Specialist was in a position to exercise over their work. In his Administration Reports he has ~~uniformly~~ stated that they have been engaged ~~exclusively~~ on analytical work connected with the Geological Department, and in his final report he made the following definite recommendation

all along been taught of officers who were Dr Lehmann's Assistants merely for the sake of supervision and of further instruction in analytical work.

to Government: " The two senior Assistants have as always devoted their entire time to the Geological Department. As the Assistants were transferred from the Geological Department simply for the purposes of giving the advantage of trained supervision I beg to suggest that when the trained supervision is removed they be retransferred to the Geological Department." The Government have merely given effect to this recommendation in retransferring the two Assistant Chemists to the Geological Department. You do not state whether you are or are not taking back the said officers, but deal, as already observed, with matters which are legitimately within the province of the officers in charge of the Agricultural Chemist's office.

5. In para 7 of your letter it is said that the settlement outlined in the order of Government does not commend itself either to Dr. Coleman or yourself.

The Government would prefer to consider what Dr. Coleman's attitude is ~~chemist~~ should he himself choose make a ~~direct~~ representation on the subject; so far they have not heard from him to any such effect, which raises a ~~same~~ presumption that he has nothing particularly strong or weighty to urge in regard to the arrangement ordered by Government. Confining themselves now to your own point of view, Government regret that it should be what it is. But they do not find, on a careful perusal of your letter ~~it~~, that there is any more weighty reason given for it than the personal one that the two Assistant Chemists who have had to be reverted to their original Department, feel aggrieved that some one of them has not been chosen for the charge of the Agricultural Chemist's laboratory in preference to another who is in every way better qualified for such charge. At the same time, should you

have any other objections to taking back these officers or desire to submit fresh proposals for a settlement, not calculated to interfere with arrangements ordered after due deldberation for the conduct of work in the Agricultural Chemist's Department, the Government will gladly give the same their best consideration. It is hardly necessary to add that the Government see no good reason for asking Dr. Coleman to associate himself with you in drawing any such proposals as that officer's temporary connection with the work of the Agricultural Laboratory has ceased, and he has none whatever with the Geological Department.

6. ~~The case is different~~ as regards the apportionment of rooms and the division of stores, which have hitherto been held in common, and other allied matters; ~~and~~ it is with a view to facilitate a satisfactory settlement on these

points that the Government have ordered the constitution of a Committee of which you have been requested to be a member. The Government will be glad if you will act as the Chairman of this Committee and submit its recommendations at an early date.

7. The question of a scholarship to Mr. Venkat Rao does not arise in the present connection and will be disposed of separately. If it be decided to send him out with a scholarship, thereby necessitating his being taken away from work of the ~~Agri-~~ Geological ~~cultural~~ Department, you will of course be duly consulted before action is taken.

I have &c.,

30/3/09

Secretary to Government.

Ags Bs 31/3 1.50 p.m.

M. G. D. 12]

MYSORE GEOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT

No. 2480

DATED BANGALORE, 5th April 1909.

From

DR. W. F. SMEETH, M.A., D.Sc., A.R.S.M., etc.,
Secretary to the Government of H. H. the Maharaja of Mysore,
Geological Department.

To

K.S. Chandrasekhara Iyer, Esquire, B.A.,B.L.,
Secretary to the Government of His Highness
the Maharaja of Mysore,Gen.& Rev.Depts.

SIR.

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter R 7966/Agri 153-08-4 dt. 31. 3. 1909. (unnumbered and undated) on the subject of the future conduct of work in the Agricultural Chemist's Department &c. in reply to my No.2418, dated the 26th March 1909.

2. I am much obliged for the fullness of the reply with which I have been favoured, not only because it gives me the first official information which I have as yet received about the matters dealt with, but also because it discloses some confusion of ideas which no doubt accounts for the fact that I have not been consulted on matters in which I consider myself to have a legitimate interest and which closely concern the Geological Department.

3. May I very briefly recall the history of the case?

4. When Dr.Lehmann came here in 1898 the question of suitable Laboratory accommodation for his work arose and was fully discussed by the Dewan (Sir Sheshadri Iyer) Dr.Lehmann and myself. At the time I was engaged in reconstructing and improving the

he Geological Laboratory and the suggestion that this should be converted to a General Chemical Laboratory in which chemical work for the Geological Department, for the Agricultural Chemist and other Government purposes should be conducted under the supervision and control of Dr.Lehmann came from me. I proposed this arrangement on the grounds of efficiency, coordination and cooperation and was willing to forego my control of the building and the accommodation which I had hitherto enjoyed for the sake of having a decent laboratory in the station under the control of an experienced Chemist, receiving in return Dr.Lehmann's services in assisting and supervising the work of my own two Assistant Chemists in regard to the more technical and important chemical work required by the Geological Department. I was given to understand at the time that suitable accommodation for the Geological Department would be provided close to the Chemical Laboratory so that other officers of the Department could also conveniently use the Chemical Laboratory. This latter accommodation has not been provided and I have given up all hopes of getting it and I have lately been trying to arrange for some accommodation for Chemical and testing work at Lambourne house.

5. When the arrangement with Dr. Lehmann was arrived at, it was suggested that the Geological Laboratory should be known as the "Chemical Laboratory" of the Government of Mysore and that it should be transferred to the Agricultural Department simply for convenience of administration, Dr. Lehmann being head of that Department. The suggestion was not adopted by Government and in Order No.2408, dated the 15th September 1900, the building is referred to as the Geological Laboratory and is permitted to be utilized by the Agricultural Chemist to the extent required.

6. The building is still the Geological Laboratory and so far as I am aware there is no Agricultural Chemist's Laboratory and the term is merely a loose expression for the portions of the Geological

Laboratory

Laboratory which the Agricultural Chemist may happen to be utilizing.

7. The portions of Government Order No.R.7200, dated the 12th March 1909, referring to Dr.Coleman being relieved of the charge of the Agricultural Chemist's Laboratory and to Mr. Yegnanarayana Iyer assuming charge thereof are therefore inaccurate and exhibit some confusion of ideas. By implication the Geological Laboratory is meant, which was to be utilized by the Agricultural Chemist in return for services rendered to this Department by Dr.Lehmann as an expert Chemist. As the expert chemist has now been withdrawn the question of the arrangement for utilizing the Geological Laboratory and for the work of this Department appear to me to be open to consideration and to be a matter in which I am entitled to be considered.

8. Under these circumstances I trust that Government will be willing to reconsider the tenor of their remarks conveyed in your letter under reply which suggest that I am interfering in matters with which I have no business.

9. With purely agricultural work - chemical or other - I certainly have no concern and I do not recollect having offered any suggestions as to how Government should run ~~this~~ their agricultural work or who should be in charge thereof. But in regard to the disposal of the Geological Laboratory and the arrangements for carrying on work therein, I venture to think I should have some say if from no other consideration than that of ordinary professional courtesy.

10. The whole arrangement originally arrived at has now broken down - there is no expert chemist to supervise the chemical work and I am left without the advantages which I bargained for and am simply told without any reference as to convenience to take back my two Assistant Chemists. The natural

course

course would seem to be that if Dr.Lehmann's services were dispensed with and were not to be replaced it should be considered whether one of his Assistants should be placed in charge of the Laboratory - simply as a Chemist and not as a ~~Geological~~ Geologist - Agriculturalist &c — and if so the question of the particular assistant to be placed in charge would have to be considered. Hence my enquiry as to whether Dr.Lahmann had left any recommendation in favour of Mr.Yegnanarayana Iyer, which was not a mere impertinence on my part as your letter would seem to suggest. You have however very kindly replied to the enquiry, but I regret to say that the reply does not touch the question at issue.

11. There is apparently nothing to be gained by further discussing the matter in view of the very determined attitude of Government which indicates that the policy of the last 9 or 10 years in regard to forming an efficient Chemical Laboratory under proper supervision is to be reversed and that the Laboratory is to be broken up into disjointed units and, taking advantage of the suggestion in para 5 of your letter that I have permission to submit fresh proposals, I beg to make the following suggestions.-

12. It will be extremely inconvenient for me to supervise the work of my two Assistant Chemists if they remain in the present building and it will be impossible for me or other officers of the Department to take proper advantage of a laboratory situated there. As I have already pointed out I was given to understand that the Department would be provided with accommodation close to the Chemical Laboratory which would have been a great convenience. Now however as a small museum building has been erected at Lambourne House, we shall, I presume, remain there indefinitely and I have already begun to make arrangements for a small Chemical Laboratory there which it is necessary to have. The obvious and only efficient course is to increse the accommodation at Lambourne House so as to provide a Chemical Laboratory there for the work of the Department which will be under my own eye and handy for use by all of

the officers. This will set free the building now known as the Geological Laboratory for the accommodation of the Government Mycologist and the Agricultural Department for which purpose it will be no more than sufficient. It will, in my opinion, be quite inadequate to accommodate in addition the geological work apart from the inconveniences which I have already spoken of.

13. I would therefore request permission to prepare a scheme for the proposed extension at Lambourne House and suggest that in the meantime affairs at the Laboratory be allowed to remain in statu quo. Until this question is settled it is difficult to see on what lines the Committee referred to in para 6 of your letter is to proceed.

14. In para 7 of your letter you say that the question of a scholarship to Mr. Venkata Rao will be considered separately. I referred to it as Mr. Venkata Rao was asked to go to Germany to study Agricultural Chemistry - I believe on the recommendation of Dr. Lehmann. If he is now to come back to me I request that he may be given a scholarship to go to America to study mineral and rock analysis and that he should do so now while the new extension is being prepared.

15. In conclusion I may say that I have never shown any disposition to interfere in matters which do not concern me and I trust that from what I have now put before them Government will be willing to admit that I have not done so in the present case.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

W. F. Smeeth

State Geologist in Mysore and
Secretary to Government,
Geological Department.